

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9-18, and 20-27 are pending. Claims 1-3, 9-14, 20-24, and 27 stand rejected. Claims 4-7, 15-18, 25, and 26 are objected to. Applicant has amended Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 12, 15, 16, 18, 22, 23 and 25. Applicant has cancelled Claims 6, 8, 17, 19 and 26. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in light of the remarks herein.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102/ § 103

Claims 1, 2, 9-11, 22-24, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by PCT Publication No. WO 02/059455 (“WIPO ‘455”) to Zupanick et al. Applicant traverses all rejections, assertions, notices and findings therein. Claims 12, 13, 20, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) obvious over WIPO ‘455. Applicant traverses all rejections, assertions, notices and findings therein.

Claim 1 is amended to add the elements of allowable Claim 6. Claims 4, 5 and 7 are rewritten to include the elements of their respective base claims (prior to further amendment). Applicant submits Claims 1-5, 7, and 9-11 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 12 is amended to add the elements of allowable Claim 17. Claims 15, 16 and 18 are rewritten to include the elements of their respective base claims (prior to further amendment). Applicant submits Claims 12-16, 18 and 20-21 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 22 is amended to add an element analogous to allowable Claim 12. Applicant submits Claim 22 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 23 is amended to add the elements of allowable Claim 26. Claim 25 is amended to add the elements of its base claim (prior to further amendment). Applicant submits Claims 23-25 and 27 are in condition for allowance.

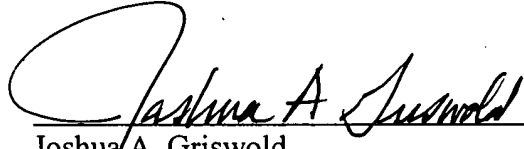
CONCLUSION

Applicants have now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of all Claims.

If the present application is not allowed and/or if one or more of the rejections is maintained, Applicants hereby request a telephone conference with the Examiner and further request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney to schedule the telephone conference.

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$180 for the information disclosure statement late submission fee. No other fees are currently believed to be due. However, please apply any deficiencies or any other required fees or any credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing the attorney docket number shown above.

Respectfully submitted,


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